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denses his impressions into eleven concise paragraphs which give "the results of the discussion". In one particular only does he appear to me to have exposed himself to the criticism of incomplete analysis, and that is his discussion of the effect of the value of the new securities issued as a result of the reorganization as compared with the value of the securities which they replaced. On the whole, however, the work appears to me to be excellent. It is one of the few books which have appeared on railways during the past ten years that is worth the serious study of a serious student.

HENRY C. ADAMS.

A History of Canada, 1763-1812. By Sir C. P. LUCAS, K.C.M.G., C.B. (Oxford: The Clarendon Press. 1909. Pp. 360.)

IN this volume Sir Charles Lucas deals with selected phases of North American history, from the inauguration of British government in Canada, after the Treaty of Paris of 1763, to the close of Sir James Craig's administration in June, 1811.

The title of the book is scarcely an accurate indication of its contents, as more than half of the volume deals with the American Revolution. That the American Revolution had an important bearing on Canadian history no one will dispute. But that the details of campaigns in that historic struggle should bulk so largely in the history of Canada, while a great many very vital domestic matters are scarcely touched upon, indicates the characteristically European point of view from which the whole period is approached.

The first chapter deals with the Proclamation of 1763 and Pontiac's War, two-thirds of the chapter being occupied with the details of that abortive Indian rising. The next chapter is devoted to the causes of the American War of Independence and the Quebec Act. The first half of the chapter is devoted to a discussion of colonial and imperial relations, in which the matters in dispute between the American colonies and the mother country are treated in the light of modern British imperialism and not without didactic intent. The latter part of the chapter deals with the conditions determining the policy of the Quebec Act, and whether we agree or not with the historic and other judgments of the author in this delicate field, he is at least on essentially Canadian ground.

The third chapter, which is much the most extensive in the book—pages 90 to 207—is concerned chiefly with the War of American Independence, and, except for the account of Carleton's heroic defense of Canada under very adverse and discouraging conditions, the greater part of the chapter is occupied with details of American campaigns. It is obvious that the author is mainly interested in the imperial problems connected with the relations of the colonies to the mother country, hence the episodes of American colonial history are quite as instructive

as those which pertain to Canada alone. Moreover, the hero of the volume is Sir Guy Carleton, afterwards Lord Dorchester, and whatever has a bearing on his career and that of his friends and enemies is of interest to the author.

Sir Guy Carleton was undoubtedly a great soldier, probably the ablest of the British officers in America during the Revolutionary War. He was also a thoroughly honorable and conscientious administrator, setting his face resolutely against prevailing forms of executive corruption in an age when such forms of corruption were all but universal. But his ideas of justice and administrative efficiency were purely military and autocratic. Our author will have it, however, that Carleton was not only a great soldier and administrator but a statesman as well, though the reversal of most of his plans for the government of Canada took place before his administration closed, and the remainder resulted in a paralyzing friction between succeeding governors and the popular element in both provinces.

Chapter iv. deals with the Treaty of 1783 and the United Empire Loyalists. The Loyalists are very favorably regarded, notwithstanding that they demanded the repeal of the most characteristic features of the Quebec Act and the reversal of much of Carleton's policy. The next chapter is occupied with the establishment of representative government under the Constitutional Act of 1791 and the initial working of the new system during the closing decade of the eighteenth century. Incidentally it records the sorrows of Lord Dorchester, who found that his autocratic military methods were disliked not only by his subjects, as formerly, but by the home government and by other military autocrats, such as Lieutenant-Governor Simcoe. In this chapter Sir Charles Lucas quotes with approval and treats at some length the very interesting scheme of Chief Justice Smith for a general representative government for all the British North American provinces. Had it been adopted this confederation might have passed by more easy stages than did the individual provinces into the familiar modern form of responsible self-government.

The last chapter deals with the administration of Sir James Craig whose unhappiness came from following the policy of his predecessors and reaping where they had sown. Here our author gives striking evidence of his inveterate optimism as to British imperial policy, wherein ultimately whatever is right, even though those who bring it to pass are invariably wrong, while those who strive in vain to prevent it are chiefly statesmen and patriots. Thus we are taught that among the most unquestionable blessings which have been vouchsafed to an unreflecting empire have been the American Revolution, with the loss of the old American colonies, and the War of 1812. Yet, strange to say, there is naught but condemnation for those who precipitated these blessings, and praise for those who resisted them.

From a literary point of view the volume is quite successful, the author is careful as to his facts and the narrative of events is simple, direct and interesting.

There are a couple of appendices; the first of which contains the text of the Treaty of 1783, and the second, which is a natural sequel, contains a summary of the proceedings connected with the settlement of the boundary between Canada and the United States. The volume is enriched by a number of excellent maps.

Saint-Domingue: La Société et la Vie Créoles sous l'Ancien Régime (1629-1789). Par PIERRE DE VAISSIÈRE. (Paris: Perrin et Cie. 1909. Pp. viii, 384.)

M. DE VAISSIÈRE has made a very definite and important contribution to the colonial history of France. A long and diligent study of the rich and abundant colonial archives at Paris has enabled him to depict the social life of French Santo Domingo under the Ancien Régime with originality and authority. In his second chapter, *La Noblesse Française à Saint-Domingue*, we find all that remains of his original purpose, announced by him some five or six years ago, to write the history of the rôle played by the nobility of France in the work of colonization. He maintains in this chapter the thesis that the *gentilshommes*, emigrating to Santo Domingo first as officers in the service of the king, find themselves drawn by instinct from the towns to the plantations to regain their threatened independence and to live again the life of the *gentilshommes campagnards* of their ancestors in France, described by M. de Vaissière in his well-known work, *Gentilshommes Campagnards de l'Ancienne France*; that they became a new element which little by little exerted a large influence upon the heterogeneous society of Santo Domingo. Students of colonial history will rejoice at the decision of the author to broaden the scope of his study in devoting the larger portion of his book to the treatment of the picturesque society in general of the "pearl of the Antilles". His study has forced him to conclude that the idea of luxury and charm of the colonial life, at least for Santo Domingo, has been much exaggerated and is in fact almost legendary. Instead of being luxurious he finds the homes of the planters lacking not only in good taste, but often times in comfort even. He gives us many interesting details of the construction and furnishing of these homes. As to the life led by the colonists, he depicts it, by means of some well-chosen and extraordinarily interesting passages from a wide variety of documents, as crude, monotonous, voluptuous, lawless and at times almost barbarous. Upon this fact he lays much stress as an explanation of the marked tendency of the colonists to regard their residence in the island as only a means of acquiring a fortune and of their eagerness to return to France to enjoy the fruits thereof.

The author shows a very admirable caution in drawing general con-